Office Memorandum · UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : P. G. Strong   DATE: 31 March 1953

FROM : F. C. Durant

SUBJECT: Unidentified Flying Objects

1. Jack Hockert telephoned yesterday and told me that O/CI
is no longer following reports of U. F. O.'s. Jack has the O/CI
file of U. F. O. dispatches and wanted suggestions as to where
to send it.

2. O/SI interest in U. F. O.'s is currently centered on
Dave Stevenson (Air Branch/Applied Science Division). He is back-
stopped by Lt. Col. Fritz Cder (Geophys Br/P&E Division). Stevenson
has all O/SI files with exception of key documents, Panel Reports,
etc. which are in the Operations Staff office.

3. It would seem wise for O/SI to keep a watch on U. F. O.
reports in view of possibly greater activity this summer. The
following steps are suggested to assign responsibility and insure
receipt of intelligence information:

    a. Designate Chief, Applied Science Division as
coordinator of reports on U. F. O.'s with the suggestion that
Mr. David B. Stevenson be named "action man". Carbon copy
to Chief, P&E Division would request division support to
Stevenson be coordinated by Lt. Col. F. O. Cder.

    b. Request O/CI turn files now in custody of John Hockert
over to Stevenson for perusal. I believe very little material
would be worth saving except as samples of indicative or
unusual reports. The rest I recommend be destroyed.

    c. Request O/CI Screening Panel (Miss Lowry, I believe)
route all future messages pertaining to U. F. O.'s to the
Applied Science Division, Attention: D. B. Stevenson, for
review.

4. The above method is believed the simplest method for O/SI
effectively keeping tabs on the subject. There would be little
time required on Stevenson's part to keep himself up to date. In
the event of a future flap, his continuing watch should prove
valuable in a critical analysis. From time to time he might
report orally to you or to me on the status quo but no formal
reports seem indicated.

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5. If the above plan appears suitable and you so desire, I'll prepare directive memos.

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F. C. DURANT

OSI/FCDurant:bm

Distribution:
    Orig and 1 - Addressee
             1 - Subject file
             1 - Chrono file
             1 - Daily reading file